

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

OCTOBER 7, 1968

AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING

1. To complete the purchase of property from Humble Oil and Refining Company. (E.M.A. - Pointe-Aux-Chenes + Salvador) (2)
2. By special permission approval was also granted to issue a contract to ROWCO to spray Bundicks Lake. Lysanth Spray (2)
3. A discussion of Act. No. 660 of the 1968 Legislature. (4 & 7)
4. A discussion of Commission policy on out-of-state travel of employees. (5)

READJOURNED AT 1 P.M. SESSION

(7)

**LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION**

**SPECIAL MEETING HELD IN BATON ROUGE**

**OCTOBER 7, 1968**

On Monday, October 7, 1968, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission held a Special Public Meeting in the Meeting Room of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission's Baton Rouge District Office, at 10:00 A.M., as called by Chairman Jones.

Members present at the meeting were:

Jerry G. Jones, Chairman

H. Clay Wright, Vice-Chairman

H. B. Fairchild

Clarence A. Guidry

Hobson Norris

Jimmie Thompson

**ABSENT: John Edwin Kyle, Jr.**

Vice-Chairman Wright called the meeting to order explaining that Chairman Jones had been detained due to weather conditions and would arrive at the meeting as soon as possible. With a quorum present, Vice-Chairman Wright started the meeting by asking Mr. Peter Duffy, Commission Attorney, to explain the first item on the agenda.

Mr. Duffy explained there would be no further Commission action necessary to complete the purchase of land from the Humble Oil and Refining Company; however, it is proposed for the Commission to complete the final act of sale by making payment and signing the document today. At the regular monthly Commission meeting, held in Lake Charles on April 23, 1968, the Commission formally approved the purchase of 55,974 acres, more or less, located in St. Charles, Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes at the cost of \$21.00 per acre. Mr. Duffy said the Commission has now reached the point to consummate the sale which would be for a total of \$1,170,000.00.

Vice-Chairman Wright stated the Bundicks Lake area is infested with water hyacinths and action should be taken immediately to alleviate the problem.

Mr. Herring explained the spraying of hyacinths on Bundicks Lake is about 800 acres in size which is the infested area. The Louisiana Division of Administration advertised for bids on the spraying and received two bids. One from Roane Flying Service in the amount of \$15.00 per acre and the low bid was received from ROWCO in the amount of \$8.66 per acre. Mr. Herring said the bids received are in line with the estimated cost of the project and recommended the

acceptance of the low bid as submitted by ROWCO.

Mr. Thompson then questioned the legality of the Commission acting on this matter. He explained at a previous meeting of the Commission, it was decided no other matters could be discussed at the Special Meetings of the Commission other than those items specifically stated on the agenda.

Mr. Peter Duffy, Commission Attorney, stated that if the Commission conducts the meetings as in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, then the motions are legal and in order.

Mr. Thompson then made the motion that "we suspend the rule of nothing to be heard at a special meeting except what is on the agenda for this item only, O-N-L-Y, only". Seconded by Mr. Fairchild.

Vice-Chairman Wright asked if there was any discussion on the motion, there being no discussion, he called for a question. Hearing no opposition to the motion, Vice-Chairman announced the motion passed to suspend the rule and placed the Spraying of Bundicks Lake on the agenda.

After further discussion, the Commission voted unanimously in favor of accepting the low bid of ROWCO.

On motion of Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Fairchild, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Division of Administration was requested by the Commission to advertise for bids on the spraying of Bundicks Lake, for which total of two bids were received, and

WHEREAS, the low bid received from ROWCO has been found to be

in line with the estimated cost and the concern has been found to be a reputable one.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby request the Louisiana Division of Administration to issue a contract to the low bidder, ROWCO in the amount of \$8.66 per acre to be sprayed on Bundicks Lake, Beauregard Parish, Louisiana, covering an area of approximately 800 acres.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to sign any and all documents in connection therewith.

Vice-Chairman Wright next requested that the two following items on the agenda be tabled until they can be discussed in a closed executive session. Then, after such time, the Commission can publicly act on the matters.

Mr. Thompson then made a motion to have item No. 2, concerning Act. No. 660 of the 1968 State Legislature, for the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission to neither take a stand for or against it.

Dr. Glasgow stated that he felt that Act 660 is very vital to the public interest and therefore, he recommended that if it is discussed that it be done at a public meeting.

Vice-Chairman Wright called for a vote as to whether to discuss Act 660 of the 1968 State Legislature. The vote was three to two opposing the Commission taking a stand on the discussion of Act

No. 660. Those voting in favor of the Commission not taking a stand were Mr. Thompson, Mr. Norris, and Mr. Fairchild. Those in opposition to the motion were Mr. Wright and Mr. Guidry.

On motion of Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Fairchild, the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby go on record as neither opposing nor favoring Act No. 660 of the 1968 State Legislature.

Vice-Chairman Wright then called for a discussion of the next item on the agenda which concerns out-of-state travel for Commission employees.

Dr. Glasgow commented on the matter in stating that if out-of-state travel for Commission employees were to be discussed, he could see no reason why it should not be discussed in open session. He said any important matters should be heard by the public and they are entitled to it. This is a public agency and any business should be conducted in public. A travel policy could be discussed with anyone.

Mr. Fairchild made the motion for the Commission not to take a stand on out-of-state travel of the employees as this was a matter for the Director to decide and should be considered as a part of his administrative powers. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norris.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Guidry made the motion to amend Mr. Fairchild's motion by closing the meeting, going over to the Governor's office to sign the Humble Oil document, and then

reconvening at 1:00 P. M. the same day to discuss the matter.

Mr. Guidry's amendment was seconded by Mr. Thompson.

The question was asked if the meeting would be open to the public. Therefore, Mr. Norris motioned for a substitute amendment to have the meeting at 1:00 P. M. as Mr. Guidry stated, but that the meeting also be open to the public. Mr. Fairchild seconded Mr. Norris' motion.

Vice-Chairman Wright then called for a vote on the substitute amendment. All members present voted in favor of the substitute amendment. Vice-Chairman Wright next called for a vote on the amendment as made by Mr. Guidry. All members present voted in favor of the amendment. Mr. Thompson commented in stating that the original motion was killed and would not be voted on. Then, Mr. Fairchild withdrew his motion in order to make the matter easier.

There being no other business to come before the Commission at that time, on motion of Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Fairchild, the meeting was adjourned until 1:00 P. M.

Chairman Jones opened the meeting at 1:00 P. M. explaining he had placed Item No. 3 on the agenda for the meeting which was held that morning. Item No. 3 concerned out-of-state travel for Commission employees. Since Chairman Jones placed the item on the agenda, he requested the matter be passed if there were no objections from other members of the Commission.

Chairman Jones referred to Item No. 2 of the agenda relative to Act No. 660 of the 1968 State Legislature dealing with the Commission and Director's powers. Chairman Jones explained he had talked to quite a few people who were knowledgeable about the subject. After his conversation, Chairman Jones said, he arrived at the conclusion that a study of the proposed Constitutional Amendment No. 3 should be made. Chairman Jones further stated, "I don't mind saying that I am opposed to it as it presently stands, after looking at it." Again, he reiterated the need for a study and investigation on the subject.

Dr. Glasgow suggested a professional organization be employed to make this survey such as the Wildlife Management Institute. This type of an institute does nothing but study, investigate and make surveys of various wildlife, game and fish departments through the United States.

Chairman Jones then recognized Mr. Charlie Bosch, Executive Director of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation.

Mr. Bosch said the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was established on December 10, 1952. Two years later, the



Commission employed the Wildlife Management Institute to make a study which resulted in a 96 page report taking the Institute personnel about 6 to 8 months to conduct, and costing about \$2,000. Mr. Bosch explained the report defines almost every phase of the Commission. Mr. Bosch further stated the proposed Amendment No. 3 embraces only those points which are brought out in this report. He said the report is not a law nor is it the final word, but it does give a form and basis for the Commission to follow. Mr. Bosch further said the bill had been in the 1968 legislature in May, passed the legislature, and slated for Amendment No. 3 to be voted on by the people on November 5th. Here it is October, Mr. Bosch said, and the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission had decided to take action. He continued by telling the Commission, if a study is to be made, it would be very wise to have a representative of the Wildlife Management Institute or a national organization assist in the investigation.

Chairman Jones thanked Mr. Bosch for his comments. Chairman Jones asked if there was any other business to come before the Commission. There being no further business to discuss, on motion of Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Guidry, the meeting was adjourned.

*Leslie L. Glasgow*